

## Overview

In this activity, you will brainstorm ways to introduce an element of shared writing into a variety of activities that take place throughout the school day. You will try out these activities in your classroom. Then you will answer a series of reflection questions that will help you evaluate the success of the activities.

## Objectives

- To figure out how to introduce interactive writing into your classroom
- To try out these activities with your children
- To reflect on the process of creating opportunities for interactive writing

## Materials

- Large chart paper
- Markers
- “Creating Opportunities for Interactive Writing Reflection Sheet,” below

## Instructions

1. Choose an interactive writing activity for a large group and small group.
2. Brainstorm ways to add variety to your interactive writing, such as a response to literature or a KWL chart.
3. Read the CIRCLE tip below to review the components of interactive writing.
4. Introduce your new interactive writing activities. Pay special attention to your children’s responses to the inclusion of interactive writing.
5. Reflect on your experiences with this activity and have your thoughts and notes ready to share in the next *Share Ideas*.
  - Describe the activities you used for interactive writing.
  - How and why did you select these activities?
  - What worked about these activities, and what could be improved? If you were to use these activities as interactive writing activities again, what would you change?

### CIRCLE Tip

In interactive writing activities:

- The content of the writing is relevant and interesting to children.
- The teacher “thinks aloud” about what she’s writing and why she’s writing.
- The teacher uses her knowledge about each child’s writing abilities and calls on two or three children to write specific letters, punctuation marks, and words.
- Individual children are asked to write a specific letter, punctuation mark, or word.
- All children contribute ideas.
- All children reread the text that has been written.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Creating Opportunities for Interactive Writing Reflection Sheet**

### **Part I: Interactive Writing in a Large Group**

Activity Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. Why did you select this activity? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What special preparations or new materials were required for this activity?

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How did children respond to this activity? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. If you were to use this activity again, would you change it in any way? If so, how?

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## Part II: Interactive Writing in a Small Group

Activity Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Description: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why did you select this activity?

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2. What special preparations or new materials were required for this activity?

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3. How did children respond to this activity?

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4. If you were to use this activity again, would you change it in any way? If so, how?

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